An Otome Game's Burikko Villainess Turned into a Magic Otaku

Volume 4

Sakura Ageha

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First year - Second semester

Chapter 1 - Q of Hearts

The second semester has finally begun.
I've returned to the Hearts class' dorm.
In front of the mirror I'm fond of that's installed in a wooden frame in my dorm room, I carefully checked the bottom of my neck.

"Alright! It's completely gone."

That day… Of all things, Achille left a kissmark on me. And of all places, on my easily visible nape!
For a few days, I was forced to live a lifestyle of concealing it.
During that time, Achille would appear like natural to force me to do my homework…
But thanks to that, I somehow or other got all of my homework done before the new semester began.
After making sure that I hadn't forgotten anything I needed for class, I left my room.
Before going to class, I have to drop by the auditorium. It's just for formality's sake, but we do have an opening ceremony.

When I entered the auditorium, I found that the other students were already gathered there.
Characteristic of the first day after the summer vacation, the building is filled with liveliness.

"Ah-, Beatrix. It's been a while~"

I discovered Beatrix right by the entrance. She was wearing vivid oriental clothing, and was surrounded by girls of the Diamonds class.

"Miss Camille, I'm more glad to see you well than anything."

Beatrix was kind enough to step out from the ring of girls.
With a wave of her hand, the schoolgirls all blushed and stepped aside.
…Beatrix, you're so cool.

I decided to talk with Beatrix until the opening ceremony began.

"Oh yeah, I met the Q of Clovers during the summer break."

"Ohh? I see I see… Meaning, that Aurelia Trèfle?"

"Mn, she was actually a fifty-five year old woman inside."

"Eh-?"

"She's Achille's family's maid. It seems that after she failed the entrance exam, she

went to get a job."

"…"

It seems that Beatrix was shocked in various senses.

"And you see, I'm about to get into a pretty important topic, but…"

"More important than talking about the Q of Clovers?"

After making sure there were no other people around, I told Beatrix about it.

"It's about an omen of the revolution end…"

Beatrix looked at me with a shocked expression.

"By the 'revolution end', you mean… that?"

"…Yeah. The citizens of Garnet are starting to riot, and I heard from Aurelia that they're using the revolution end's slogan of "An institution that does nothing but ignoring the circumstances of the commoners, and fighting amongst themselves is unnecessary"."

"Aurelia was never forced to drop out of school, but she never enroled in school, and the world is moving in this direction, huh… But, don't think about it so hard. This world is similar to the game, but it's a real world, independent of the game. The future should change in accordance to how we live our lives…"

Beatrix has been battling with this belief in mind, in order to avoid a nightmarish future. She probably won't allow this thinking to be overturned no matter what. EVen I think so.

"Yeah… Something like the game's end won't happen, right?"

"…As long as somebody like us who came from another world doesn't intentionally move and manipulate the world to realise the game's plot, things probably won't so easily follow the path of the game. There are countless ways the future can play out, after all."

"…"

"But it really is a little worrying, huh… My side will feel the effects of a rebellion in Garnet as well. Miss Camille, please take great care as well. You're also a noble girl of the Garnet Nation after all."

"Got it, I'll be careful."

If there really is a revolution, then I want to do something to stop it before it happens.

If I don't, in the worst case, Royce-sama will be executed, and Achille and I will be in danger as well.

The headmaster appeared atop the stage. It looks like he has no motivation today, either.
Possibly because there's still some time until the ceremony begins, he just began to doze off on stage.
He had three thick braids of hair hanging down to his waist, and was probably quite old, but his appearance didn't look like anything other than a youth in his twenties. He had slightly unhealthy looking pale skin, and unreadable golden irises.
Rumours have it that he's an incredible magician, or a monster, but I think it's just because the students have fun spreading rumours.
I mean, it's the headmaster who only ever moves slowly like a slug, you know?

"Oneesama!"

"Ah-, Mei-chan."

Mei, who went through a terrible time during the kidnapping incident, ran over to me with a smile.

"Are you okay now?"

Her wounds were healed with magic, but it should have been a great shock emotionally.

"I'm fine! I won't lose to something like that!"

"…You're strong, Mei-chan."

Seeing her try her best in that small body of hers makes me want to support her unconditionally.

"Yes, I have to keep a strong heart. I mean, I'm going to become a mother after all."

"Nn?"

I kind of get the feeling that I just heard something incredibly shocking at the end.

"There's a baby in my stomach."

"…!"

With a gentle smile, Mei lovely patted her belly.

"C-… Congratulations."

I'm so shocked that my words won't come out. The father… There seems to be no

possibility other than Raiga-sama, right?

“Thanks, Oneesama. I’ll try my best to give birth to a healthy baby.”

“Mei-chan, you have a baby in your belly, so take care not to overwork yourself, okay? Are you sure it’s okay for you to even stand here?”

“You’re such a worrywart too, Oneesama. Huhu, just like Raiga-sama.”

…How outrageous. To be similar to Raiga, doesn’t make me even a little happy.

“It’s alright, I’ve already spoken to the school staff. If it becomes too tiring, I’ll take a rest on one of the seats near the wall.”

“Mn… That would be good.”

During the summer break, it seems that Mei and Raiga experienced various things as well.

Chapter 2 - J of Hearts

The second semester began, and each person returned to their room in the Hearts Class dorm.
Unlike the other students, the inside of my room is almost the same.
Even if it's the same, there's no problem after all.

The degree of calm in my dorm room compared to my home is proportional to the amount that my stepmother and Dominique aren't able to meddle. Camille's room is closeby too.
It seems that the interior of Camille's room is also mostly unchanged.
However, when it comes to her room, because of her magic tools or magic experiments, the look of her room can completely change even if her decoration remains the same. In a way, you could say she has great sense.
In contrast to us, His Highness has completely changed his room to his tastes. His room already looks like a completely different one from his old one.

If I remember correctly, it's almost time for the opening ceremony, huh…
Putting on my coat, I left the room.

"Achille."

Just as I left, I met with His Highness.
It seems that Camille has already left.

"Hey, how far have you gone with Camille? I wonder if she's more or less getting used to romance as well."

"…We haven't gone anywhere, but during the summer break, she got a bit more used to it."

When I was making Camille do her homework, I decided to try hugging her through the whole thing after all.
During the last few days of the summer break, it seems that she got used to it too, and started sitting on my lap as though it was natural.

"Today's news: Raiga's given up on his rights to succession."

"Raiga-sama did?"

"Mn, only we of the royal family know right now."

"And why is that?"

"Because he became a papa! I'm sure it's to protect Mei, huh! He probably wants to avoid unnecessary conflict."

His Highness smiled from the depths of his heart.

“Apparently his fiancée, the Q of Spades Mei Zakro is pregnant.”

“Pregnant?”

Even those two aren’t even married just, just when did they start doing those kind of things I wonder…?
Or rather, even though they’re both still students… They’re really too haphazard.

“Oh? Achille, you look like you don’t agree.”

“No, I feel that it is a happy thing that the number of succession candidates has lowered.”

As a person supporting His Highness, it’s one of the things I couldn’t help worrying about.

“Really? I was sure that you were unhappy because you were jealous of Raiga.”

“…I am not that selfish, you know? If Camille wants to continue going to school, then I will wait until graduation.”

“But if you did it now, then you wouldn’t need to worry about the Topagerian prince stealing Camille anymore, right?”

Even though I’ve gone to the trouble of holding myself back, His Highness says nothing but things to sway my determination.
He probably doesn’t mean anything bad by it, but I wish he would stop irresponsibly inciting me.

“…No matter what you say, Your Highness, I place importance on Camille’s wishes.”

“Hm~mm, well, I get the feeling that Camille isn’t dissatisfied with you either, after all. I completely intend on getting in the way of the meddling from the neighbouring nation for you two, you know.”

And in truth, because His Highness has been stopping them behind doors, up until now there have been few large movements by the neighbouring country.
I’m thankful to him for this.
I wish that Topageria would just give up already.

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“Achille Jade.”

Just before I entered the auditorium, a schoolgirl called out to me.
It's a face that I recognise.
If I remember correctly, she was the person that Camille was drunkenly associating with at the entrance ceremony.
After that, I had to apologise and reimburse her for her uniform and various things like that, so I remember her.
She came and talked to me about weird stuff as well, after all.

"Achille, I'll head in first, okay?"

His Highness probably thinks that I'm being courted by one of the noble girls again.
He disappeared considerately into the auditorium.
Certainly, this chain of events would normally lead to a confession, but…
But I feel that the girl in front of me has an atmosphere different to those noble girls.

"I need to have a talk with you."

"…Please keep it short."

First of all, the girl looked around, before leading me behind the auditorium.
It was dark here, and there was nobody around.
Is it something that she wants to that badly keep a secret?

"What do you think about this country?"

"…Is this, a solicitation of some sort?"

Religion, or a political movement? …We only just entered second semester, so I wish she would just give it a break.
Outside of work, I don't want to get involved with such bothersome things.

"That's not it. No, perhaps it is…"

The girl played with her curled cinnamon hair as she talked.

"I want you to become our ally. Speaking simply, I want you to work with us to save this country…"

Her olive eyes gazed at me strongly.

"…The extremist faction of the commoners?"

They're surprisingly close by, huh.
The extremist commoners are steadily gaining supporters, and even now within town, though there are those that don't directly participated in extremist activities, they support the extremist in the shadows.
I don't know how involved she is in the movement, but it would probably be better to be careful.

“Calling us extremists is quite rude, isn’t it. Though we certainly do get called that. You’re from the commoner class, so you should understand as well, right? The unfairness of this world…”

“…”

Why does this woman know about my background?

“Even though the orphanage you lived in was managed by the country, don’t you think it was a terrible environment?”

What’s with this woman? For her to know even about the orphanage.
The orphanage that I belonged to should have collapsed a few years after I was taken from there. That’s why there are few people who know about that place now.
Despite that, why does she know about how the orphanage was back then…?

However, whatever she says, I’ve already decided on my reply.

“I refuse.”

Hearing my words, her solitications became even stronger.

“Why? Even you should think that the state of the country is abnormal. Are you refusing because of your viscount’s family? Or is the cause that fiancée of yours?”

Her face twisted into a sneer.

“Honestly, I’m constantly amazed by that romance-obsessed woman. To be picking up men even in a different world… She can’t distinguish this world from a game, can she?”

“Are you insulting Camille?”

I have no idea what this woman is saying, but it’s certain that it’s nothing good.
Though Camille vomited on her uniform in the past, there should be such a thing as choosing your words better.

“The one being insulted by that woman is you.”

The corners of the woman’s mouth rose in confidence for some reason.

“Her real form, do you know it?”

“…May I ask you what you think you know about my fiancée?”

To the end, I didn’t let my veneer of grace crumble.
I’m actually becoming a little irritated though.

“Your fiancée know everything about your upbringing. Your personality, the actions you’ll probably take, your behaviour, and as a result of these, the future you’ll probably meet as well; she knows all of these, and on top of that has gotten close to you, you know? That woman.”

Well, Camille knows that I’m an illegitimate child after all, and we’re childhood friends so she knows my personality as well. And as for my future, we’re planning on getting married.
On top of that, we move together.

“So what?”

“Achille Jade! You’re being tricked, you know. By that woman. That woman calculated everything to get close to you. To make you hers.”

“Hahh…”

‘To make you hers’, is not something a young girl should be saying.
And, if I had to say, the one making anybody his is me.

“Hey, you’re not supposed to be somebody who is so stupidly involved in romance, you know? You want to change this country, right?”

The girl talked fervently about the danger the country was in.
Gee, all of the things she’s mentioned are things that I obviously know already, though.

“Certainly, I do think that I would like to change the country, but… I have no intention of working with you. At any rate, if I was going to change the country, I would do so with a different method.”

Not overturning the country through extremist activities, but soundly bettering the country from within.
Even if it takes longer, if even one less sacrifice can be made, I would choose that path.
And tentatively, it’ll be a country that His Highness will be managing after all.
I don’t want to do anything to mess it up.

“How regretful. I’m disappointed… You’ve been completely led by that woman, haven’t you. Even though I thought I could use the J of Hearts.”

The woman muttered that with cold eyes, before raising her hands to the air.

Chapter 3 - Q of Hearts (Part 2)

"Camille, wait a moment!"

After I finished speaking with Mei, Royce-sama called out to me.

"What is it? Royce-sama…"

"I think something a little bad for you just happened."

Bad for me? I wonder what he means.

"Hey, Mei. It's nice to see you this lively, but don't push yourself, okay? Your body isn't just yours now, after all."

Royce-sama said that with a smile, before pulling me outside by the hand.
It seems that he knows about Mei's pregnancy as well. Has he heard from Raiga or someone?

"Camille, Achille was brought behind the auditorium by a girl you know! As the fiancée, I think this is where you should step in."

"…Confessing where people can't see you, huhh. Isn't this as usual?"

When I said this, the ends of Royce-sama's eyebrows dropped in disappointment.

"Camille, that's no good you know. It's because you're like this that the other noble girls haven't given up on Achille. It looks like a loveless engagement that they have a chance of worming into…"

"Mmmn…"

What Royce-sama is saying certainly does have a point.
I've always left it alone when Achille gets confessed to, or surrounded by noble girls.
Thanks to that, I suffered some unpleasant feelings at Déborah's wedding reception.

"I understand. I'll go see how things are."

"If you've decided on that, then let's go! I have the responsibility of seeing you two through."

Eh-… Royce-sama too?
Just like that, I was led by the hand by Royce-sama behind the auditorium.

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“I refuse.”

The moment we arrived behind the auditorium, Achille said that.

“Isn’t that great, Camille? It looks like Achille clearly rejected her.”

Royce-sama whispered to me with a smile.

“It seems that way, huh.”

“Why? Even you should think that the state of the country is abnormal. Are you refusing because of your viscount’s family? Or is the cause that fiancée of yours? Honestly, I’m constantly amazed by that romance-obsessed woman. To be picking up men even in a different world… She can’t distinguish this world from a game, can she?”

Wha-… Could that girl, possibly be the Heroine?
A lovely girl with fluffy curled hair… It seems it really is her.
Even though she’s in front of Achille, she’s saying stuff like “game”.

“Are you insulting Camille?”

“The one being insulted by that woman is you.”

A cold sweat ran down my back.

“…May I ask you what you think you know about my fiancée?”

“Your fiancée knows everything about your upbringing. Your personality, the actions you’ll probably take, your behaviour, and as a result of these, the future you’ll probably meet as well; she knows all of these, and on top of that has gotten close to you, you know? That woman.”

I unconsciously took a breath.
She’s wrong… That’s not it. The reason I didn’t tell Achille anything isn’t because of the reson she said.
But, I stiffened and stayed right where I was.

“So what?”

Achille probably doesn’t know what the Heroine really means.
I wanted it to stay that way.

“Achille Jade! You’re being tricked, you know. By that woman. That woman calculated everything to get close to you. To make you hers.”

“She’s wr-…”

I had no intention of tricking Achille.
But, the reason that I didn't tell him the truth was exactly that. If he knew the truth after all this time, would Achille scorn me?
I don't want to be hated by him… Why am I feeling this anxious…?
It's the first time since coming to this world that I've felt terror from something other than physical danger.

"Hey, you're not supposed to be somebody who is so stupidly involved in romance, you know? You want to change this country, right?"

"Certainly, I do think that I would like to change the country, but… I have no intention of working with you. At any rate, if I was going to change the country, I would do so with a different method."

"How regretful. I'm disappointed… You've been completely led by that woman, haven't you. Even though I thought I could use the J of Hearts."

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"Huh? They don't seem to be talking about love, do they…?"

Royce-sama who hadn't noticed that I was trembling due to the danger I had invited on myself, muttered in bored disappointment.
Royce-sama, you followed me here half for fun, didn't you?

At that moment, the Heroine who seemed to be unhappy with Achille's reply suddenly raised her hands into the air.

"!"

It was the action of creating a large scale magic.
I immediately pushed Royce-sama into cover, and ran towards Achille.

A magic circle was forming in the air.
That's an incantation for quite a high level spell, huh…
Memory sealing magic. It's not a forbidden art, but it's theoretically better to weave it into the realm of forbidden magic, and is the magic being cast right now.

"Achilleee! It's dangerouuus!"

"Eh-… Camille?"

While catching sight in the corner of my eye, of Achille who was turning in surprise, I cast the memory seal magic in reverse to seal the Heroine's magic.
I think Achille by himself is enough to deal with it, but the opponent is the Heroine who possesses a lot of magic power. I can't be careless.

"My, you were here too? …You got in the way, huh?"

The Heroine… Frau Monier, turned my way, and smirked in ridicule.

“This is great. Since you’re here, shall I unmask you before your fiancé? Bodyswapper-san?”

Chapter 4 - J of Hearts (Part 2)

The schoolgirl began talking proudly before Camille.

“That woman over there isn’t Camille Rhodolite, you know. She’s a fake. She’s a villain who’s continued to deceive you until now.”

The girl spoke to me while pointing at Camille.

“Hey, Current Camille Rhodolite-san. You’re not a person from this world, right? Just like me, you’re a fake who took over and switched bodies with someone else, right?”

Despite ridiculous words being spoken to her, Camille didn’t talk back to the girl.
…Strange. Camille isn’t the type to stay quiet when people falsely accuse her of things. Even though she would normally talk back and make fun of them…
Her face is bright red. She’s chewing on her lip, her two hands are clenched, and she’s trembling.

“Would you please not say strange things to Camille?”

“Oh? …But, she isn’t denying it, is she?”

Certainly, just as the girl says, Camille just stood there taking it all and didn’t deny it.

“…Camille?”

She looked up at me with a terrified expression.
While I was preoccupied with Camille, the girl raised her hands into the air a second time, and by the time I noticed it was too late.

“I’ll… show you how she really should be.”

The schoolgirl drew some unknown magic circle, and fired it this way. It’s similar to communication magic, but I don’t know what kind of magic it is.
I immediately covered Camille and used defence magic but… the girl’s magic power was of a volume impossible for one person.
Unable to defend completely, some of it hit.
I was on my knees, and the girl smiled fearlessly.

“My, my, even though you’re supposed to be bad at magic… You’re strong, aren’t you? You’re a talent(card) that I’m wanting more and more. I’ll come invite you again, so I’d be happy if you accept it next time.”

Like that, the girl gleefully left the area.

My body is unsteady. It seems that Camille who’s in my arms was hit with some of

that woman's magic, so she's unconscious.
For her to be shaken enough that she didn't immediately use defence magic, is not normal.
However, I could only keep conscious up until there.

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Is this a dream?
I'm looking at myself.

I was walking happily together with Royce-sama down a hallway in the magic academy.
His Highness seems a little different somehow. He has this hard to describe ephemeral feeling… and is upfront in his behaviour.
He doesn't seem like the person who would even by accident, have a hobby of peeking on and stalking the girl he likes, or whipping a middle aged man.

The me in the dream was talking to His Highness about the future.
The contents of the conversation were close to what I have planned in mind now, but I feel that it's a little too idealistic. You have too many dreams, and it's kinda embarassing you know, Me.

And then, a pink figure appeared.

"Ah-…"

It's Camille. Her atmosphere seems kind of different.
For one thing her hair is tied into two, and wearing a frilly dress the likes of which I've never seen before, she's clinging to His Highness and flirting with him.

"Wai-… Camille, what are you doing cheating so openly!?"

I accidentally let out a voice, but Camille paid no heed and wrapped herself around His Highness' arm. Was it intentional that she nonchalantly pressed her chest against him?
His Highness is smiling troubledly.
As for me… What? Aren't I frowning incredibly unhappily!?
Moreover, it doesn't look like the reason is jealousy.
I'm gazing at Camille as though I'm looking at garbage.
No matter what, I can't imagine myself looking at Camille like that.

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The scene changed.
This time what I see is myself relaxing in the courtyard.
His Highness is lying on the lawn the same way, and sitting by his side is… Eh-?

"Why is it that woman!?"

The schoolgirl who tried to invite me to her cause behind the auditorium was chatting to His Highness with a smile. Chatting to the woman, His Highness' cheeks were red.

"Your Highness… What happened to Miss Beatrix?"

However, it seems that they couldn't hear my voice. Not one of the three turned my way.

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Once again, the scene changed.
This time, with an impatient expression, I was running towards the rooftop of a tower near the school. His Highness who is running by my side with a sword in hand was there too. I don't really get it, but for now I followed the two. I intended to follow the two up the stairs, but rather than running, it felt more like my body was floating.
Having reached the rooftop, I follow the gazes of His Highness and I.

The door to the room at the end of the stairs was open.
There, were Camille and that schoolgirl.
Camille was standing with a number of men in wait. It looks like thugs she hired with money.
It seems that the two of them haven't noticed His Highness and I.

"Goshhhhh. Royce-sama you knowww~? Loves Camille, you seeee~ So there's no room for a dirty looking Ugly like you, is thereee~?"

"Uuu…"

The schoolgirl was collapsed on the stone floor, and Camille was overlooking her with arms crossed…
It's obvious that Camille is harassing the girl. Camile… what on earth are you doing?

"Ahahaha, suits you right~ Like I thought, garbage should be like garbage♪"

The words that came out of Camille's mouth who was ridiculing the powerless girl who was trying to stand up, was completely unlike her.
Camille gave a sidelong glance at the men surrounding the girl, and signalled them.
S-, So sly! It's definitely not a performance that Camille could handle!
As expected, this is definitely a dream.

"Heyy, won't you fuck this woman? Mess her up, enough so that she can never show her face to Royce-sama again♪"

The men nodded at Camille's order, and then advanced on the girl while licking their lips.

"N-… No. Save me-"

The girl shut her eyes, and then screamed His Highness' name.

"ROYCEEE-!"

In that moment, His Highness flashed his sword.
Uh, Your Highness… When did you suddenly learn to use something like a sword? His Highness is a magic type, you know?
He went, 'It's heavy~' and immediately gave up on the way of the sword, you know?
Ignoring the voice in my thoughts, His Highness rapidly mowed down the men.

"S-, Strong… Even though it's His Highness…"

In an instant, His Highness defeated all the men.
And watching from behind him was the other me… Why is he just spectating while His Highness fights? There are a lot of things I want to tsukkomi about.

"Royce…"

The schoolgirl was nestling against His Highness who had run over, and Camille was retreating with a paled face.
I who was watching up until now, moved to cut off the escaping Camille.

"Oi, Me! What the hell are you doing treating Camille so violently!?"

In a panic I tried to pull Camille over, but my hand passed through her arms.

"Geh-, what is this? I can't get a hold."

A dream where I have to see Camille in a pinch is the worst.

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And then, the scene changed once again.
Camille was locked in a dungeon. There was no power in her, and looked just like the Count's daughter, Claire.
A number of men were inside the cell. It was like a recreation of the treatment Camille had given to that girl.
And watching expressionlessly from outside the cell were His Highness and I.

"Achille, isn't this going too far?"

"I'm just returning to Camille what she tried to do to Frau. We can just bribe the men later."

After giving a single unhappy and cold glance at Camille, I quickly turned around and left. His Highness followed after.
Even if I know it's a dream, it's a scene that's more unpleasant than anything.

Hearing Camille shriek from inside the cell, I turned around in a panic, and found the men approaching Camille.

“Wai… Stop!”

Even if I yelled, the men didn’t stop.
It seems that nobody will recognise my existence in this dream. I passed through the cell bars, and tried to tear the men off, but as expected my arms passed through them and couldn’t do a thing.

“Get away from Camille!”

Even though it’s in a dream, I can’t stand that Camille has to face this horrible treatment.
And moreover, that the one who gave the order was myself in the dream…

It’s a nightmare… This is, a nightmare.

This kind of thing, I would definitely not allow it to happen…

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“-, stop!”

The hand that I tried to grab them with once again found nothing but the air. Like that, I felt gravity, and fell…
-Pompf!-

…I collided with something soft.

Mn? Pompf…?

“Achille!”

When I turned my gaze towards the voice… I found His Highness.

“Is this reality?”

Have I escaped from that sickening dream?
When I looked around to see where I was, I realised that it was the familiar room of His Highness.
It seems that His Highness found me collapsed, and carried me to his room.
Of course, I don’t think that the person who carried me was His Highness himself, but one of his guards though.

“…Reality? I don’t really know what you’re talking about, but this definitely isn’t a

dream.”

Saying that, His Highness grabbed my two cheeks and gave them a long pull.

“…P-, Puease let gow.”

It’s His Highness. Without any feeling of misplacement, I understood that it was the real His Highness.

“Achille, you were having a nightmare, you know? …Camille as well, though.”

“Camille?”

“Look beside you.”

Following His Highness’ finger, I looked to the other side of me… and found Camille lying atop a blanket.
She still hasn’t woken, and is having a nightmare. It seems that there are no injuries.

I felt relief from the bottom of my heart that Camille was safely beside me.

Chapter 5 - Q of Hearts (Part 3)

Before I noticed, I was in a familiar room.
If I'm correct, this is the academy's cafeteria. I don't usually use it, but I know of it.
Why am I in a place like this?
Even though I should have been behind the auditorium until just a moment ago…

Just as I was thinking that it was mysterious, I could hear some girl going kyaa kyaa and making a fuss.

"Royce-sama~ Don't say something like that, and let's eat together~ Here, say AA~HN♪"

There I was, tempting Royce-sama in a sugary, burikko voice…
Eh-, what is this? What is this?
I was wearing a goth loli outfit with the chest area undone, and holding a spoon by Royce-sama's mouth.
Because of the impossible scene, I could do nothing but blink.
Royce-sama had a stiff smile on.

…*

The surroundings changed.
This time, it was me treading on the Heroine's dress at the party.

"What's are these rags~, I wonder~? Worn out curtains, I wonder~? My, how rude of me♪ There was a person inside, wasn't there? She was one with the rags so I didn't noticee♪"

Is this, me…?
No, that's not it. I've seen this scene before…
This was something that happened between the Camille Rhodolite in the game, and the heroine Frau Monier.
If I remember correctly, this was when the Heroine who had come with Royce-sama to a noble's dance party was bullied and stepped on by Camille. It was a scene where Camille intentionally spilled wine and various other foods on the heroine's dress. She really does have a bad personality, huhhh, Camille.
Well, I also spewed something worse than food on the Heroine's dress, so I can't really speak too self-importantly either though…

"How nastyy. Please try your best not to show Royce-sama that outfit, okay~? If he was beside a dirtied woman like you, wouldn't he be embarassed?"

Camille left the scene while ridiculing the Heroine.
In fact, after this, the Heroine actually gets discovered by Royce-sama and they go to his room and kiss and do various other things, though.

..*

The scenery changed again.
It's the scene where Camille called the heroine to the roof. Camille was unhappy about the Heroine whose love for Royce-sama was reciprocated, and tried to separate the two of them by having hired men attack the heroine and turn her into 'damaged goods'.
In the end, she failed though, and after being caught, she was treated mercilessly by Achille…
See? Before she started her evil deeds, Royce-sama and Achille appeared to save the Heroine.
Royce-sama magnificently brought down the hired men with his sword, and saved the Heroine. Speaking of which, this Royce-sama could use a sword, couldn't he? …And this Achille was a non-combatant. Because I've been looking at the two in reality, somehow seeing these two from the game feel a little off, huhh.
The moment that the men had judgement handed down on them, Achille began apprehending Camille. The moment his opponent is a noble girl, he gets confident huh… Damned Achille.
When Achille looks at Camille, his eyes are cold as ice.
If, I myself was looked at like that by him… I'm sure I wouldn't be able to bear it.

..*

The scene changed,and this time a place like a dungeon appeared.
It's the scene where Camille was punished. It's because of this scene that『Carte à Jouer』was given a 15+ rating.

"Mn…?"

I had thought that before, when I noticed something off.

"Huh? Why, am I in these chains?"

It wasn't Camille's figure that was there, and for some reason it was me myself that was chained up in the dungeon… When did this happen?

"Wh-, Whyyy!? Wa-… Royce-sama, Achille, get these offf!"

However, the two of them didn't react. Royce-sama looked disinterested, and Achille was looking at me like I was a piece of dog shit.
Y-… You heartless guy!
Right, these two are the Royce-sama and Achille of the game. The two of them hate Camille.
…Oh crap. I'll be violated at this rate! And afterwards, because of this Camille was socially ruined even futher.
Even if this is inside a dream, I'll absolutely pass on this!

“Achille, please! Save me, I said!”

However, Achille just looked at me with cold eyes.
…What should I do?

“Ah-!”

I remembered something important.
Right, this is inside a dream, but it’s possible that he might look at me like that in reality. Because I’ve always kept secrets from him…
That I came from another world, that I knew about Achille and the others because of the game…
If they knew that I one-sidedly used them as an outlet for feelings of romance through the game, I’m sure they would definitely not feel anything good at it.

“This is no good… I’m definitely going to be hated.”

The men are approaching, and Achille and Royce-sama have left. Even so, I unconsciously looked to them for rescue.

“Achille… Save-”

..*
“Camille!”
..*

Suddenly, a voice resounded around the cell.

“Achille?”

Even though he should have left earlier, why?

“Camille, wake up.”

It seems that I’m hearing it above my head. When I faced upwards, even though it was a dungeon, there was light coming down.

“Achilleee-!”

I yelled towards the light. The moment I did, the light expanded.
And like that, the dazzling light enveloped me.

Supporting Character Introduction

Aimée Afriat
The head maid of the marquis residence.
She’s been around the longest of all the maids, and right now reigns over them as the strongest servant-sama.

Is a woman who can really do her job. You can find out most things about the marquis house if you ask her.
Has a good build. Loves sweet things.

Chapter 6 - J of Hearts (Part 3)

"Sav… Achille-"

"Camille. You're okay, wake up!"

"Sa…"

"Camille!"

Perhaps because the feeling of being shaken brought her consciousness back, Camille faintly opened her eyes.

"No… Save me-"

However, it seems that she isn't fully awake yet. Tears spilled from the corner of her eyes.

"…Camille."

I kissed her.
I'm sure that just like me, she had an unpleasant dream.

"Nn'u"

Like that, I gently pat her hair, and she gradually calmed down.

"Don't cry, Camille."

"Nn… Achille?"

Camille was looking at me with a just-woken expression, but that for an instant, fear was mixed into that expression was not something that I missed.
Does the fact that she was writhing in her sleep mean that she saw a nightmare just like I did?
It couldn't be… the same dream?
What I did in the dream could surely be called the actions of a piece of scum.
Camille's actions in the dream were quite terrible too, but what I did in the dream went far beyond the realm of revenge.
It couldn't be, that that's what she was frightened of?

"Achille, Achille… I'm sorry."

"Nn…?"

The first thing that came out of Camille's mouth was an apology, but why is there a

need for her to apologise to me? …I don't get it at all.

"Camille… What are you apologising about?"

After Camille raised herself into a sitting position, she began speaking to me with a deadly serious expression.

"You despise me, right? I was a liar after all, and I did something to you two that means it can't be helped if you hate and curse me."

"…"

Could it be…?
I could guess what her words were implying. It seems that Camille was admitting what that schoolgirl said as truth.
No matter what that girl said, Camille didn't insert a single rebuttal…
Even though I thought that woman's contemptuous talk about Camille being a bodyswapper was just nonsense.

"Camille, calm down… Try speaking slowly. I promise that I won't hate you no matter what."

"…-"

It seems that she doesn't trust my words. Camille averted her face to the side.
Whenever something inconvenient happens, she'll immediately run away… It's a bad habit Camille's had since we were young.

"…Camille."

I turned her back straight at me.
At first she averted her eyes, but eventually, she resignedly opened her mouth.

"I haven't said this to anyone but… I wasn't born Camille Rhodolite…"

I unconsciously held my breath. It's an idea that I can't believe no matter what.
But, I stayed quiet, and waited for her next words.

"I was originally in another world, and I ended up becoming the three year old marquis' daughter, Camille Rhodolite, in this world… When I met you, I was already the me I am now, so I've always kept silent though."

"Camille…"

Thank goodness… Hearing her words, somewhere inside me, I felt relieved.
It seems that the Camille I've always associated with is the Camille in front of me now.
Right, there's no doubt that the Camille I love is her.

“I think that schoolgirl is from the same world as me.”

That Camille is a person from another world is something that I still can’t fully believe.
I mean, no matter how you look at her, she’s a normal person. She’s just a little covered in tattoos.

“…Then, about you knowing about us?”

“Uu…”

Hearing my words, Camille’s expression, couldn’t get any more… any more uncomfortable.
Like that, she opened her mouth reluctantly.

“…You’re similar.”

“To what?”

“T-, To… how do I say this, to a story in the world I was in. There were characters that were just like you and Royce-sama.

“A story?”

“…Umm, it was a romance-ey story that girls would probably like. You two were characters that appeared in the story. Achille was the friend of the protagonist, and Royce-sama was one of the protagonist’s lover candidates, and depending on how things went, he became the protagonist’s husband. And Camille played the villain who got in the way of that.”

“It couldn’t be, that dream…”

That revolting scene appeared in my mind. I did mentally back away a little hearing words like ‘lover candidates’ and ‘depending on how things went’, though…
While I was thinking these things, Camille continued to explain.

“The relationship between you and Royce-sama was similar… and in the story where Royce-sama became the protagonist’s husband, they cooperated to save the protagonist from Camille, and eventually the protagonist went on to become queen.”

Like I thought, the story that Camille is talking about really does resemble the dream I had.

Chapter 7 - Q of Hearts (Part 4)

Between the guilt and the awkwardness and the shame, I trembled.
Even if this is reaping what I sowed, what is this, this torture!?
Why do I have to talk to Achille about the otome game?
But for now, I should just be happy that Achille doesn't despise me. I kind of get the impression that he doesn't really believe me but… if that's the case, I'm happy with it.

"That's a really interesting story, huh~"

Royce-sama's face suddenly appeared from behind Achille.

"You were here too, Royce-sama?"

He erased his presence again, didn't he?
It seems that all of the conversation just now was heard by Royce-sama.

"His Highness carried us two here after we collapsed."

"Eh-, really? Royce-sama, thank you very much."

"I couldn't leave you two, after all, and you had various magic cast on you too."

"Ugeh-!"

You damned Heroine, what magic did you use? Memory erasal magic?
Despite that, I quite clearly remember what happened just now though… Maybe I blocked some of it.

"This is just from what I can understand, but a magic that looked similar to communication magic was fired at you two… Maybe it was fiction magic. Also, it looked like Achille had thought manipulation magic cast on him. I researched and dispelled that, you know."

…Isn't thought manipulation a forbidden art!?
I wonder if the remaining communication magics or whatever were the contents of the dream just now? If they were, then that was incredible harassment!
Because Achille defended for us, it ended at that level, but if it wasn't for that, I might be suffering in that dream right now.
Were it not for Royce-sama, the two of us would've been done for, for sure.

"Thank goodness that Royce-sama was here…"

"Right? Thank goodness that I got permission for the forbidden archives~"

"Yes. Honestly, thank you very much."

“Mn, mn, so as thanks, I’d like you to tell me about that story earlier in more detail.”

“…”

Stooop iiiiiiiit!
Any more than this and… I’ll go mad from the shame!
I mean, how do I explain the rest? That I enjoyed Royce-sama’s route while smirking away… I don’t want to tell them that~!

“Camille, what’s wrong?”

Achille noticed that I was acting suspiciously.

“Ummmm, I guess I don’t really want to talk about this too much, or rather…”

“Achille, and Camille, and I… Who else appeared? Who was it that became my lover?”

“Royce-samaa!?”

Wait, please dont just smile and stab at the heart of the matter like that!
If you say that, won’t the four different romance routes and each romance’s uhuhu ahaha stuff get revealed?
And, won’t it be possible that after finding out that I enjoyed those kind of games, Achille will think of me as some kind of unprincipled womannn?

“Geez… You’re going too far with this shame play.” [tl: play as in sexual play]

“Shame play? Eh-, is it a story aimed towards adults?”

Royce-sama has come to an outrageous misunderstanding.
I can’t just accept appearing to be a person who enjoys those kind of things… Externally, that is.

“Y-, You’re wrong! It’s nothing like that, it’s just a normal romance story.”

It was rated 15+, but let’s just leave that out.

“As for your partner, Royce-sama, it was that girl who cast magic on us earlier. That girl is the protagonist. In the case where she gets close to you Royce-sama, the two of you get married, and she becomes the queen.”

Ah-, Royce-sama looks like he’s incredibly unhappy about that.
I could hear him mutter “So it’s not Beatrix…” in a quiet voice.

“Hey, Camille… You said that was in the case where she gets close to His Highness, meaning that, there are also cases where she doesn’t?”

“Achille…”

Nobody needs you to sharply point that out.
But having come this far, it doesn’t seem like I can avoid it. If you go all the way back, all of this are seeds I sowed, so there’s no helping it. Now that it’s come to this, I’ll bravely reap them all at once.
Ahhh, geeeez, let whatever comes comeee!
Without hiding anything, I decide to tell them the outline of the game.

“Ummm… In that game, besides Royce-sama, the protagonist could also become a couple with Raiga-sama, Tria-sama, and one of the students in the Clovers class.”

“…That girl, four-timed?”

An expression of shock appeared on Royce-sama’s face.
Explaining that game going by this world’s logic, is increeedibly hard.

“Yes, though she doesn’t date them at the same time. In this world, a tale where you can read four different paths in a love story, is a little rare. The me before I was Camille knew about the contents of that story.”

Right. Just as the heroine says, I knew about Royce-sama and Achille, and when I associated with them, I unconsciously used my knowledge of the game.
When it comes to Royce-sama, I have a painfully embarassing history of overlapping him with the game’s Royce-sama, and intensifying my longing for him.

Favourite foods and drinks

Camille → Black tea and sweets
Beatrix → Coffee and fruits
Aurelia → Alcohol
Mei → Black tea and meat

Chapter 8 - J of Hearts (Part 4)

I more or less understand Camille's story now.
According to her, she came from another world, and before she knew it she had entered a little girl, Camille Rhodolite.
And, we're just like the characters in a story in her world…
She also said that the girl who called me out behind the auditorium also has a high possibility of being from the same world as Camille.
It's somehow, an incredibly suspicious sounding story, but Camille is being serious, isn't she…
And I don't know why, but it's incredibly embarassing.

"Sorry… I've always kept quiet about something so important. And for me to have read something like a romance story where Royce-sama and a bunch of other people appear… And in the beginning I even overlapped these people with you…

Camille sniffled and ended up breaking into tears again.

"Don't hate me…"

Ahh, geez.
Why did her thought process take her there?

"There's no way that we'd hate you, right?"

I embraced her. Camille was being obedient in my arms.

"That's right. Both Achille and I wouldn't hate you over something like that. Aren't we friends who've spent over ten years together?"

"Uu… but, I, kept quiet about this for over ten years… -"

"Don't worry about it. Honestly, I thought it would be something more incredible, but it was nothing that bad, after all."

Your Highness… It seems that you've unexpectedly become quite a big shot[1].

"At the very least, you're an important enough friend to me that I ran around sending for forbidden magic books, spending over half a day researching various things, and frantically using trial-and-error to dispel magic, for you."

"Royce-sama…"

Your Highness…
Your spent over half a day trying to dispel the magic on us?
Like Camille, I also sent a look of being deeply moved towards His Highness.

His Highness averted his eyes, just a little embarassedly.

“You two did nothing but sleep for two whole days after all, so you two rest for a little longer. I’m going to go prepare food, okay?”

With that, His Highness promptly left the room.
I’ll sure be in debt to him for a while…

“Camille…”

After thinking about things for a little while after His Highness left, I told her about the contents of my dream.
Camille listened to my story with wide eyes… Or so I was thinking, when her face turned bright red and she began writhing about.

“UWAHH, UWAHHHHHHH, HEROINE YOU IDIOT! WHAT ON EARTH WERE YOU SHOWING ACHILLEEEEEEEEEE!”

I doubtfully gazed at Camille who was screaming in a loud voice whilst writhing atop the bed.
Camille began telling me about it embarassedly.

“…That was, the tale that I told you about. It’s completely different from the reality of this world, right?”

“Yeah, honestly it was a sickening story.”

“Sorry, I’m sorry that Camille was a piece of scum.”

“No, that’s not what I mean! And, if I had to say, I was more of a piece of scum. Doing that kind of thing to you… No, let’s stop this. Even if we apologise about something that didn’t actually happen, there’s no point, Camille.”

“M-, Mmn. But I’m,”

“No matter what you are, it’s fine, you know? Even if we say you did come from another world, it’s fine.”

Honestly speaking, I don’t really believe her though. Even if that really was the case, I’ve spent more than ten years with her, so there’s nothing to be said about it after all this time.

“…Are you really fine with it, Achille?”

“Of course. I should be asking you what’s wrong with it.”

Camille looked at me, dumbfounded.
Did she really think that I’d hate her or something? If so, I’m pretty indignant.

Her face went bright red, and she immediately became to fidget. It seems that having come to this, my words have finally gotten through.

“Um, Achille,”

Camille looked at me with upturned eyes. This Camille has no relation to that kind of cunning, so she probably did it unconsciously.

“Thanks… Umm, for continuing to like me… You know, Achille? It’s not the character in the story, but the you right now that I like, so…”

Camille who was giving her all to convey her love to me despite her turning bright red up to her ears was so cute that I couldn’t help myself.
Were this anything but His Highness’ bed, I might have pushed her down.

“But still, we have to come up with a way to deal with that Heroine, huh.”

For some reason, Camille refers to that schoolgirl as Heroine. When I asked her why, replied that it’s because the girl was the protagonist of the story in the dream. It seems that the protagonists in those types of stories are called the heroine as a whole.

“You’re right! I’ll come up with a new tattoo! It’s because the tattoos up until now have been too weak that we weren’t a match for the Heroine after all!”

Because magic tattoos only give support functions in the end, they can’t truly defend against poweful magic. At best, they can only weaken impacts, or disable weak attacks.
And it seems that Camille plans on strengthening those.

“While I’m at it, let’s have you and Royce-sama get magic tattoos as well!”

And while she was at it she spouted some incredible words. Leaving me aside, you plan on giving His Highness something like a tattoo?

Translator Notes

1. ‘big-shots’ (大物) in Japan apparently all have the quality of not being fazed by the ‘trivial’ things that other people would find incredible.

2. Also note once again that in Japanese, you don’t address people as ‘you, but by their name. Ergo, they could be talking about both the game character, or the person themselves (or both due to intentional use of the ambiguity).

Chapter 9 - Q of Hearts (Part 5)

Achille and I who had woken up in Royce-sama's room were ordered by our overprotective lord to spend a week recuperating.
Geez Royce-sama, even though it wasn't that great an injury. His worrying side is just Achille.
Despite speaking of recuperation, it seems that Royce-sama and Achille were having heated and difficult discussions about the commoner extremists. It was difficult so I could hardly understand any of it but… it seems that they're setting out to arrest the extremists on a large scale.
Unable to join in on their conversation, I was being good and docile in my room… As if.
Thinking that it was a critical situation, I had Royce-sama grab me a large number of magic books from the castle, and began throwing myself into research to develop newmagic.

Anyway, since it's a reality that the Heroine attacked us, we have to think of measurse to protect ourselves as well.
Having said that Achille was taken by surprise, it was a magic attack powerful enough that he couldn't fully defend. Normal defensive magic would probably be no good.
There's nothing to lose in preparing for the worst.

"I mean… that Heroine is OP in a sense."

The heroine in the game had exceptional magic power since she was born.
And because of that magic power, she could transfer into the magic academy, and was wanted by various powers. Depending on how things worked out, there were even cases when people of the same nation fought each other over her.
To give an example, in the case that the Heroine chooses Tria, the plot develops so that the Garnet Nation picks a fight with them to obtain the Heroine. In the end, Topageria wins, and the Heroine lives happily ever after though.

"Can you deal with a person with such magic power normally? …Or rather, what does the Heroine want to even do?"

I get the feeling that she said something about changing the country or something.
And though I don't know why, she wanted to get Achille involved in that.

"The Revolution Route…"

So does it really have something to do with the Heroine?

"Could it be that she's going out with the K of Clovers I wonder? Would doing that cause the revolution?"

I've never really come into contact with the Clovers faction from enrolment until now,

so I left them alone, but they might have made a move or something. The J of Clovers isn't in the school, but I saw the K of Clovers at the entrance ceremony.

"Should I try meeting with the K of Clovers…? But, before that I need to get the magic tattoos finished."

For now, I want to give it a strong enough effect that it can guard from forbidden art ambushes.
Laying down on my bed with a magic book in my arms, I closed my eyes. I can smell a scent unique to my room; the smell of ingredients used for my magic experiments.
Also, there's the scent of ink and paper unique to books. The books in this world aren't made from parchment, but paper instead, aren't they?
While staring at a bunch of pseudo-cinnamon sticks hanging from my ceiling, I considered the design of the magic tattoo.

"Aaahhhhh, I can't come up with anything~!"

I kicked away the bundles of dry herbs at my feet.
The more impatient I am, the fewer good ideas will come to me. And then I become unnecessarily anxious.

The thing that was most terrifying to me was the fact that Achille had mind manipulation magic cast on him.
It's a forbidden art that can even change a person's personality if used wrong. Though it was great that Royce-sama dispelled it before anything bad happened, the horror of my precious childhood friend having such a thing cast on him won't disappear.

"Achille…"

He wouldn't stop being half in doubt at the fact that I came from another world, but even so, he said that he liked the me right now.
Royce-sama also accepted me, a person who had continually kept a secret for more than ten years. I want to be able to completely protect these two from the Heroine's hands.

"Let's think about things starting with the dyes and ingredients for the magic tattoo."

Whether or not a good magic tattoo can be drawn depends on three things; the dye used for applying the pattern, the pattern drawn on the body, and the magic attached to it.
Depending on whether this combination is done well, whether or not the magic tattoo works well is basically determined.

"If I remember correctly… there were a lot of different magic plants growing in the academy greenhouse, weren't there?"

As you'd expect from a 'magic academy', this school's greenhouse has plants from other countries the likes of which I've never seen before, and lots of improved plant

strains as well.
Up until now I've been using ingredients that I had on hand, but there might be plants good for a magic tattoo in the greenhouse.
I jumped up from my bed, put on my robe, and headed for the academy's greenhouse.

※

The academy's greenhouse was a treasure trove of magic plants.
Regardless of seasons, a lot of different magic plants were in bloom.
It seems that because of these flowers, this place is really popular as a secret date spot.
But right now it's classtime. Besides me, who's still recuperating, there shouldn't be anyone else here. I can slowly go through the different magic plants. I brought a flower box so if I spot anything good I can bring it back.
As long as you're a student, anyone is free to harvest things in the greenhouse.
It seems that the earth and plants all mostly have regeneration magic cast on them, so even if I pluck stuff, it'll immediately regow.
Speaking of which, the castle's "Blue" magicians are researching the use of this magic to cure baldness. If it succeeds, they should be able to expect quite a bit of income.

I went through one by one the plants that seemed usable for magic tattoos.
Suddenly, one flower caught my eye. With individual, think stalks, it was a tall and large, bright blue flower.

"It smells ridiculously good…"

Sweet, but somehow still refreshing… a mysterious fragrance, coming from a mysterious plant.

"Is this a flower from another country?"

I reached out my arm to touch the flower.

"Camille, that's poisonous you know?"

"Fue-?"

Suddenly, a voice called out from behind me, and I froze at the words. P-, Poisonous…?

"It's a vivid and beautiful flower, but you can't touch it with your bare hands. The poison enters through the skin you know?"

A tall figure was standing right next to me. He was holding my arm, and moving it away from the flower. The hand holding my arm had a number of jingly, jangly, flashy accessories worn on it.

“T-. Thanks… Tria-sama.”

There’s only one person who decorates their hand like this. Tria Topageria, the second prince of the neighbouring country, and the K of Diamonds.

“You’re welcome~”

He smiled at me with a friendly smile. I wonder why he’s here.

“Um, Tria-sama… your classes?”

“Ditched em~ Keep the fact that I was here a secret from Bea-chin okay?”

He and Beatrix are both in the Diamonds class, so even if I don’t tell her that he was here, I think that she already completely knows that he skipped class but…

“By the way, why are you here Camille? I heard that you were sick and in the middle of recovery but…”

“Ah-…”

That’s right, if I was still recuperating, it would be weird that I was here.
I came here because I thought that there would be no students here, but to think that I’d be found by Tria.

“I-, It’s the truth that I’m recovering. Today I was feeling a lot better, so I thought I’d sneak out for a stroll.”

“Hm~mm?”

I wonder what Tria is thinking about. His eyes narrowed.
His current personality is comparatively easy to get along with, but even so, there are times like this when I can’t tell what he’s thinking.

“So, were you looking for a flower?”

…Could it be that he was watching from quite a while ago?
I was completely focused on looking for a flower to use in a magic tattoo, so I didn’t notice at all.

“I was looking for a flower that seemed I could use for magic tattoo dye. I want to use a powerful one, so…”

“Oh!? That sounds interesting!”

It was the same last time too, but it looks like Tria-sama is really interested in magic tattoos.

“Heyy, Camille. Would it be okay if I helped out with that?”

“Tria-sama?”

“I’m super knowledgable about plants, so I’m sure I’ll definitely be helpful, you know~? It’s a bargain, you know~?”

Magic plants are absolutely essential for his specialty of magic potions.

“…Is it really okay if you don’t go back to class?”

“Mn. This is more fun after all, and you’re here too, Camille.”

Tria was in a great mood.

“Then, maybe I should ask you for help.”

It’s the truth that he’s knowledgable about plants after all, and there’s also the danger of touching something poisonous like earlier, so I’d be grateful for his help.
But still, this magic academy… Is it really fine for you guys to leave poisonous flowers blooming out where anybody could touch them? I hear that this place is a date spot after all, so I think it’d be dangerous in a lot of ways, but…

Chapter 10 - K of Diamonds (Part 1)

"The blue flower from before is a terrible poison, but it actually makes good medicine you know~ There are few people who know how to use it though~"

"Could it maybe be used for magic tattoos?"

"I wonder. I'm not knowledgable about magic tattoos after all. What if you picked a few and brought them back?"

"I'll do that."

Camille used wind magic to cut the flower so that it would drop into the basket without her touching it directly.
I',(Boku)… I'm(Ore) looking around the greenhouse with Camille.[1]

"What's this flower?"

"It's not poisonous. It's used in painkiller potions in my country."

"Woww~ It kinda seems like I can use it, huh! I'll grab one."

Camille is walking around, picking flowers in a good mood.
Her constantly changing expressions are truly lovely.
For some reason it seems that she isn't popular in the Garnet Nation, but she's a rare beauty. Her personality is interesting too.
And, she has a rare talent in magic too.

"I want…"

"Mn? Tria-sama, did you say something?"

Camille who was walking up a flight of stairs in the greenhouse turned around to me.

"Mm~mm. I didn't say a thing~"

For a moment, she made a wondrous expression, but she immediately went back to picking flowers.

Aahh, I want her to be mine…

Even when I tried to force an engagement with her, the prince of the Garnet Nation got in the way so things didn't go well.
I don't know the details, but it seems that he overbearingly made some deal with my royal father, and my father was on board with his idea too.

It seems that that Éléonore idiot won't be of any use either…
As a noble girl of Garnet who was in love with Achille, I thought that I would try using her to break the two up but…
…She sure was a useless girl, huh~
Even though she looked completely confident, she was all talk wasn't she?

"Camille, how about this one~?"

I pointed at a nearby flower.

"Mn? Which which?"

Camille approached me without suspicion. She has no sense of wariness.
How she so easily warms up to people suuure is cute too~
This flower can be used to make a strong sleeping drug, and if you get too close, you'll be attacked by a sense of sleepiness and lose consciousness.
If by some slim chance she loses consciousness here, I'll take her home with me!

"What a pretty white flower."

However, even when Camille got close to it, she showed no signs of sleepiness at all.
Moreover, just when did she pluck it anyway?
She was now holding in her left hand the bright red petals of a flower said to cause full-body paralysis just by touching it.

"C-, Camille… that's,"

"Mn? This? It smelt good so I thought I'd pluck it."

Why is she fine even though she's holding that flower?

"I'll pick this one too. What a nice scent~"

Camille approached the sleeping drug flower and began sniffing it.
Of course she showed no signs of collapsing from sleepiness.

Honestly, why is she standing there just fine…? Is this also her magic?
Or could it be that the power of her magic tattoos are in effect?
…How bothersome, those tattoos.
I had once casually asked her what effect her tattoos have, but even now I still haven't fully grasped them.

…If things had gone well I had wanted to take her home with me, but it seems that it's no good today.
I decided just to give up for today.

If I did things badly and got beaten up, wouldn't it be uncool?
After all, I still have time and hands to play, right?

Translator Notes

1. Tria always uses ‘boku（僕）‘。However, after the first ‘I’ in his monologue, he corrects himself and uses ‘ore（俺）‘ in the rest of his monologue. Perhaps he’s acting more harmlessly happy-go-lucky than he actually is.

Chapter 11 - Q of Hearts (Part 6)

"Thanks for today, Tria-sama."

Thanks to him, I got a lot of different plants.
I'm sure I'll be able to make a wonderful tattoo.

"Invite me when you head to the greenhouse again."

"…As long as it's not during class."

In the end, Tria-sama skipped all of today's afternoon classes.
…I'm a little worried that Beatrix will get angry later.

"Ah-, that's right Camille. After this, how about we have a bit of a chat in my room?"

"A chat?"

"I want to know various things about your magic."

"Mmmn…"

I'd be fine with going along, but it seems like Achille will get mad at me later, right?
Last time when I went alone to play in Tria's room, I ended up getting a bit of a lecture from Achille while he stood there like a Nioh statue.
And then, a kabedon… and my first kiss.

"Uuu…"

If I do the same thing again, I get the feeling that it won't end with just a kiss this time…

I decided to decline.
During the case with Dominique, I ended up declaring myself that "I definitely won't follow men alone except for you, Royce-sama and Otousama." after all…

"I'm still in recuperation, so I'll pass for today."

"Ehhhhh-!?"

Tria looked suuper unhappy.

"Isn't just a liiittle bit okay? Even if you're in recuperation, you seem just fine after all…"

"No, but… Uwoh-?"

Just as I was about to continue my words, I stepped on something.
A-, A trap?
…Doesn't seem to be. We're in the greenhouse after all.

"Ouch."

I heard a voice, and when I looked down…
I was stepping on the back of a man wearing something like a suit.

"Ah-, I'm sorry."

I quickly removed my foot.
While wondering why there was a person laying down here, I apologised first just to be safe.

The man who was stepped on, sat up languidly.
As for his age, it's about the later half of his twenties.
He has silky silver hair that hangs to his hips, and familiar, listless golden eyes… Huh?

"Headmaster…?"

Tria muttered in surprise.

"Are you two not in class?"

"It's already finished~"

Even though Tria gave a frivolous and casual reply, the headmaster showed no signs of getting angry.

Suddenly, the headmaster looked up at me.

"Ah-, Camille Rhodolite."

"…Yes I am, but…?"

Why is he looking at me in such wonder?

"Camille, you…"

"WAKA-SAMAAAAAAAAA-!"

The moment that the headmaster tried to tell me something, from the entrance of the greenhouse came the angry shout of Beatrix, who was running towards us with a face like a Hannya[1]. With incredible vigour.

"Geh-, Bea-chin!"

Tria's face immediately paled.

"Sorry, Camille. Let's talk again some time-!"

After saying that, he escaped in the opposite direction of the greenhouse entrance at full speed.

"BA-… WAKA-SAMAAAA!"

Beatrix was chasing down the escaping Tria.
S-, So fast… At this rate, it seems that Tria will get caught right away.
Like that, the two of them ran out of the greenhouse. May you rest in peace.

"Mn? Huh?"

The headmaster who was lying here up until just a moment ago was now nowhere to be seen.

"Disappeared?"

Without showing any signs of getting up, it seems that the headmaster had vanished.

"I wonder if it was magic…"

Being the headmaster of this academy, it seems that he's an extremely outstanding magician after all.
I wonder what he was going to say to me…
Well, whatever. I'd be troubled if he lectured me after all. It can't be helped now that he's vanished.

It's great that I was able to harvest lots of flowers today.

Translator Notes

1. A hannya mask is used in noh to depict a madly jealous woman, but characters in fiction that are madly angry are often said to make faces like a hannya.

Chapter 12 - K of Hearts (Part 1)

"…And so, it's been decided that we'll be mobilising in full force to suppress the commoner extremists. Well… rather than 'decided', I was the one who made it so."

So I told my friend Achille, who was sitting before me.

"And the incident with that girl is,"

"We'll capture her too… I want to hear what ideas she had, to lay her hands on you and Camille."

He's talented, so he should understand with just those words.
There's a chance that that girl is also related to a number of the extremist incidents.

"…It seems that the other day the extremists gained control of a town, didn't they?"

"You sure heard quickly. Yeah, using military force they hijacked a town. It seems that they plan on using it as their base, huh."

Honestly, to have let these extremists do as they please, it's pathetic.

"It is not a territory that we are involved with, but it's close to a villa, so I'm worried."

Speaking of which, I think it's a town not too far from Achille's villa.

"As you'd expect, now that they've done something like taking over a town, we can't just stay still and watch. I wonder if with this, those old bureaucrats will finally get off their lazy butts."

I've spoken out before about the dangerousness of the commoner extremists.
Despite that, the higher-ups at the castle just let them do as they liked.
They took an optimistic outlook and said irresponsible things like "It'll probably settle down soon" and didn't take any precautions at all.
…On the contrary, they even helped hide the existence of the movement.
The reason that not a lot of information reached me, is probably because of that.

An existence like the commoner extremists who hold antipathy towards the country's policies, was something extremely inconvenient to the old men at the top.
So even now, the movements of extremists haven't been grasped by foreign countries and the like.
Well, with the extremists taking such radical actions, it's just a matter of time before they all know though.

"And so, Achille."

“What is it?”

“I might quit school. I don’t mean right this minute, but pretty soon.”

“…I see.”

Achille wasn’t particularly opposed. He might have known my thoughts somehow.
I have things that I need to do.

“I honestly… wanted to enjoy my school life with you two a little longer though.”

“I too. But if that’s what you say, Your Highness, then I will follow you, you know?”

“If you do that, then I’ll end up having you do a few troublesome and annoying things though…”

“I had that in mind from the start. All that changes is that I’d be doing it a little early…”

When I looked at Achille as he replied indifferently, I understood that he had already come to a conclusion.

“What about Camille?”

“It’s definitely a point of concern.”

Would it be a good idea to pull her away from her school life…?
If I asked her, she would probably happily agree and follow me though.
I’d feel just a little shy about pulling her away from the school she successfully made it into, just because of me.

Moreover, if Camille got wrapped up in this incident… if anything happened, she might be sent to the front lines.
Camille had that much power.
The person herself isn’t aware, but even amongst magicians she’s already being treated as a top class combatant.
That she eliminated a dragon despite being that young is a good example of this.
I honestly don’t want my precious friend to do dangerous things, but the pieces I can use are still limited after all…

Achille understands this too, which is why he wants my answer.

“Achille, what do you want Camille to do?”

He furrowed his neat brows.

“You are asking me? Of course, if possible I would like her to stay at home, you know. I want to make her quit going to this school where her safety isn’t guaranteed, and shut her up in the marquis’ estate to protect her for the rest of her life… But, if I

actually do so, then Your Highness' wish will not be realised."

"…Yeah."

In order to realise my wish, Achille and Camille who I trust more than anybody are essential.

"Moreover, Camille herself would likely choose to protect you, Your Highness."

Achille seemed a little dissatisfied.
He treasures Camille greatly so… I can understand his feelings.
Even so, in the end Achille prioritises Camille's wishes. It's his way of loving her.

"By the way, Your Highness, I'd like to ask about Miss Beatrix but…"

"Ahh, I received a favourable reply, so it all went well."

Just recently I proposed a deal with the king of Topageria.

"Honestly… If she hates you, I won't care, you know. To treat authority like it's everything and try to force an engagement…"

"Don't say that, Achille. Thanks to this deal, didn't I help you out too? There's no need to worry about that prince stealing Camille anymore, right?"

It seems that the prince of the neighbouring country has for some reason taken an interest in Camille.
Just like me, he constantly used his authority to aim for her.
…Sorry, but I stopped all of your advances. Those two are important to me after all.

"It appears that the plans of the extremists will be put into action very soon. I want you two to continue taking leave for recuperation…"

"I see, I'll tell Camille as well."

While watching Achille who had left the room, I sighed.

"I chose this myself. I won't regret it."

From now on, there's a mountain of things that I need to do. Speaking frankly, I don't want to do it.
But… I need to.

"Even if it was but an instant, I need to give my thanks for being able to have a peaceful school life."

It's been plenty. I've managed to experience a normal school life together with Achille and Camille.

With these memories as fuel, I can continue forward.

Around this time, Camille was near the greenhouse.
Her basket was overflowing with the various flowers she picked today.

“Great haul, great haul ♪”
＜A Choice Has Appeared＞
→ Go straight home
→ Make a detour before going home
→ Search for the headmaster
Author: If she isn’t back by the time Achille visits her room, a Lectured End is guaranteed (laughs).

Chapter 13 - Q of Hearts (Part 7)

"Camille, Camille?"

Knock knock, went my door.

"Ohh crap! I just barely made it."

Entering my room from my window, I shrank the quill. I covered the flower basket with a cloth and pushed it into a corner of my room.
Alright, evidence destroyed.
If he found out that I was outside, he'd definitely get mad at me, right?

"I'm coming, okay~?"

When I opened the door with a click, as expected, Achille was standing there.

"Achille, what's up?"

"…I should be asking you what you're doing."

Achille looked at me with suspicious eyes. …I-, I didn't get found out, right?

"N-, Nothing really? Just sleeping, you know?"

"Hm~mm?"

His eyes narrowed. Crap… His face tells me he's definitely certain about something.
Even now, I was desperately fighting back the urge to throw my body to the ground in a dogeza.

"F-, For now… want to come in?"

When I pulled his hand, he obediently followed me in.
I had him sit down on the fluffy clawfoot sofa, and put on tea.
I was going to sit opposite him, but he pulled my hand, and in the end I settled down next to him.

"Camille…"

Achille is acting kind of weird.

"You're making such a serious face. What happened?"

Achille looked like he was thinking a little, but after that he looked straight at me and spoke.

“…Camille, I,”

“Mn?”

“I… And His Highness as well, have decided to withdraw from the academy.”

“Withdraw?”

“The extremist commoner faction has been growing stronger than expected… To suppress this, His Highness is returning to the castle. I’ve decided to follow him as well.”

…It’s kind of suddenly become an incredible topic, you know?

“U-, Um,”

“Camille, what do you want to do?”

Does it feel like both Royce-sama and Achille have already made up their minds to quit the school?
While I was out plucking flowers, just what happened…?
The situation seems to be more serious than expected. The Revolution End might really happen.
…In that case, I only have one answer.

“Then I’ll quit school as well.”

“Camille? Is that really okay? To decide so suddenly…”

“To begin with, I only entered this school to protect Royce-sama from danger after all. Now that it’s come to this, I think that there will probably be things that I’ll need to do as well.”

For some reason, Achille is making a heartbroken expression.

“Achille? It’s okay, you don’t have to worry. I’ll cooperate with you two. It sounds like it’ll be hard to suppress the extremists, but when it comes to me, I’ve mastered magic to an extent, right?”

“That’s not it… That’s not it at all, Camille.”

“…It’s not?”

From the seat beside me, Achille embraced me.

“I don’t want you to help us…”

“Eh-, why?”

Do I hold these two back that much? It’s a little shocking.

“Rather… why did you get confused about that? Helping us suppress the extremists means that you’ll have to do dangerous things, you know?”

Ahhh, that’s what he means…

“I definitely know that. And even if it’s dangerous, it’s fine.”

“Depending on how things go, you’ll have to hurt or kill the extremists, you know?”

“Uu-…”

Achille knows. That in the past, I’ve killed another person.
When I was six years old, I took the life of a villain who plotted to murder Royce-sama.
And at that time, I was shaken and cried in front of him. That’s why he’s worried about it even now.

“B-, But… I’m different from that time.”

A bluff.
Since then, I haven’t killed a single person. The only things that I’ve ended are monsters.
But I know that I can’t stay like this.
Becoming Royce-sama’s bodyguard means that I’ll surely have to kill people again.

“…You liar. Even though you’re scared.”

Achille easilly saw through my lie. For some reason Achille knew I was lying.

“I don’t want you to be in danger, and I don’t want you to get hurt. If possible, I’d like you to stay out of the fight this time, and hole up in the marquis’ estate.”

His left hand stroked my back lovingly.
I’m happy that Achille is worried about me.

“But, I…”

“It’s fine, I know. You’re going to help His Highness anyway, right?”

Achille smiled sadly, so I was bothered that I would be doing something extremely inexcusable to him.

“…Achille, sorry.”

It's because he was worried about me that he didn't want me to get involved with the extremist issue.
And despite being aware of his feelings, I have no intention of changing my actions.

There shouldn't be any way that he's not dissatisfied with this, but even so he's prioritising my choice.
I don't want him to make sad expressions, but my views won't yield… I don't know what I should do.

Before I knew it, I was hugging Achille face-on.

"Sorry, I'm sorry. But thank you for worrying about me."

He's my fiancé who always, always worries about my safety more than I do myself. Even so, I can't do as he hopes.

"Camille…"

It's one of the rare occasions where he's frozen for a while with his eyes widened.

But, it seems he immediately recovered, and gently hugged me back.

"I have no intention of letting you be in danger by yourself, you know."

But honestly speaking, Achille's job isn't combat. He's The Thinker type.
It would be terrible if by some chance the excellent Achille was wounded.

"I'm more worried about you getting injured, Achille. Ah-, that's right, I have to create a magic tattoo to protect you too."

"…Tattoo?"

Achille looked at me with a dubious expression.

"Mn, mn! Expect great things, okay?!"

There are a mountain of things that I have to do before I leave the academy. My fighting spirit was fired up.
Beside me, certain about something, Achille was lecturing me, all without knowing about the fighting spirit burning secretly in my heart.

Chapter 14 - Q of Diamonds (Part 1)

"And so, I will be returning to Topageria temporarily."

I announced to Baka-sama, who was sprawled slovenly in his room.

"Okay okaaay~ Have fun take caaare~"

Without even looking this way, Baka-sama flapped his hand.

I don't know what for, but immediately after entering the second semester, I was summoned by the Topagerian king.

"I have to travel back and forth twice. To make me head back again…"

If he had something to say, it would have been fine for him to say so during the summer break.

While I'm away from the academy, I have to leave Baka-sama in the care of another guard, so I'm extremely anxious.

"Listen up. Do your very best to avoid troubling other people, and do not skip class either! It was that hard to get you permission to study abroad, so you don't want that taken away either, right?"

"Geeeez, I get it~ You're so fussy, Bea-chin~"

Leaving the disgruntled looking Tria behind, I decided to return to my homeland for a while.
That Baka-sama looks a little bit cheerful about this, is a source of insuppressable concern for me.
It's during times like this that Baka-sama, honestly, doesn't do anything decent.

※

Just returning to Topageria took almost a whole week.
There are transfer magic circle that lead to the Topagerian royal palace, but because there are few places that have them, I had no choice but to travel there normally by horse.

"But still, it's so hot…"

To this body that had experienced the fine climate of Garnet, even if just a little, the Topagerian heat felt more intense than usual.

The splendid royal palace was built like the styles of Arabia in my old world, and was a domed shape with a slightly pointed roof. Naturally, the insides are just as splendorous.
This country is rich. Actually businesses in magic items make quite a lot of money. Topagerian soil is overflowing with the materials used for magic items, so you can make as many magic items as you want.
Naturally, our knowledge and techniques regarding magic items exceeds those of other nations as well. After all, when all is said and done, we can produce more.

The king's room is, in a phrase, 'gilded splendour'.
The floor, and the walls, and the ceilings are all golden. I can't calm down at all.
Even in this world, gold, silver, gems and the like are precious.
In the depths of this room was the the king sitting on a throne. Standing quietly next to him was Baka-sama's older brother, the first prince.
I heard this through Baka-sama, but the two brothers have a lot in common. I wasn't that nervous.

The king of this nation, Álvaro-sama, opened his mouth.

"Beatrix… Your marriage with the crown prince of Garnet has been decided."

"Wha-…"

Have my ears gone bad? Just now, I think I heard something strange.

"Beatrix, it's been decided that you'll be marrying Prince Royce of the Garnet Nation."

The first prince, Basilio-sama, kindly repeated it for me, since I was shocked beyond reaction…
Aahh, I didn't need to hear that again.

"What is with that!? This is the first I have heard of this!"

I accidentally yelled, but neither the king nor the first prince rebuked me… It looks like they had predicted my response to an extent.
Looking at the king, I was probably making a severe expression.
I mean, just now… what they said was something incredibly unreasonable to me.

"The other party strongly wished for it. There is no greater offer. You are aware that he is the crown prince of Garnet?"

"Something like that could just be given to another noble's daughter."

Even though if it's a someone who'd happily cling to an offer like that, there are mountains of other girls…
Whether he knew how I felt or not, the king continued speaking.

"Considering the nation, at first I considered a marriage between Tria and that

Rhodolite lady he wanted, Garnet rejected it and gave us an extraordinary offer in return. I believe I will accept this offer."

"St-, Sto-…"

"In our nation, you as well are doomed to miss your chance at marriage, you know. A woman who swings a sword in this nation is kept at arm's length."

"However…"

To begin with, I had no intention of marrying anybody. In my family, the count's family, I have a younger brother after all, and I have no need to think about the matters of my house.
That's why with this sword of mine, I had intended to live by myself without relying on anybody.
I had intended to cut open a path to my own destiny.

"Daughter of the Count, Beatrix Tapax… For the sake of maintaining friendly relations between our two nations, I command you to wed the Garnet Crown Prince."

"…-"

If I'm ordered by the king, somebody like me can't refuse. Just like in the ending of that game.
Without heed to my will, I'm going to get married…
Just like that time when Miss Camille was afraid of a revolution, I too, am afraid of the fate that will befall me.

I'm feeling gloomy…
I was ordered to stay at home until my marriage with Prince Royce, and now I can't go to the academy anymore.

"I'm worried about Baka-sama…"

It seems that in my place, a number of additional guards are constantly watching over him, but there's nobody who can really let Baka-sama have it.
…I've become even gloomier.

I know that Prince Royce likes me.
But… just because of that, this way of doing things shouldn't be acceptable.

"Like this, this way of doing things that ignores the person's will…"

I can't accept it.

Translator Notes

1. King dude speaks to her in a kingly manner, whereas first prince speaks to her politely.

Chapter 15 - Black Joker (Part 1)

Before I knew it, I was in this world.
In a world like the game that my older sister had made… I became the game's protagonist.

Because of bullying in middle school I rarely left the house, and for my sake, my much older sister gave me a game that she wrote herself as a present.

"Oneechan, you made this?"

"Not just me, but the one who thought of the story was mostly me."

"That's amazing!"

"Hearing you say that makes me happy, Ichiha."

I immediately started the game.
The world in the game was like a dream. A beautiful castle, an academy, and cool and kind boys.

"Even though it would be just fine if this world was real…"

I absorbed myself in that world.

"This protagonist is a nice girl, isn't she?"

"Yeah, it's pretty much common sense that the protagonists of these stories are "nice girls", you know? …After all, if they had ugly personalities, the men wouldn't approach them to begin with after all."

"Like the rival girls?"

The protagonist was a normal girl whose only redeeming features were her magic power and her personality. On the other hand, every single one of the rival girls were beauties.

"Right."

Certainly, these rival girls all have terrible personalities.

I played the game countless, countless times. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that the story was already a part of me.
The four romance routes, those friendship routes, and even the hidden character routes; I had cleared all of them.

“Oneechan… I, love this story.”

From then on, without ever parting from it, I carried my favourite game around with me.
I probably should have. I… ended up separated from my older sister.
Eternally.

※

I was careless. I thought it would be okay, since I was just going to a nearby convenience store to get something for my mother.
Unluckily, I ran into the middle school classmates that bullied me. There were two guys and three girls.

“Oh hoh? Isn’t that Ichiha?”

“You’re right. What’s she doing after not going to school?”

In an instant, I was surrounded by my classmates.

“…”

I stayed silent and waited for the storm to pass. If I just stood still, at some point they would get bored and walk off somewhere.

“She’s still as gloomy as ever, huh?”

“How about saying something?”

One of the girls poked me. And that moment, the game machine fell out of my bag.

“What’s this? Hey, it’s a game. Ichiha, you game?”

“St-… Don’t touch it without permission.”

But my words were fruitless, and one of my classmates turned on the game.

“Stop it! LET GO-!”

I reached out my hand to try to get it back, but they easily avoided me.
When the tall boys held the game console up high, I couldn’t reach it because of my height.
After a while, a cheerful song came from the console. It was the music for the game’s opening video.

“Uoh-, what’s this!”

“Ah-…”

They saw it.

“What? Show me it too.”

All of the bullies peered in at the screen together.

“This is one of those! A Galge!”

One of the boys raised his voice, having fun.

“But look, there’s no girls! It’s all guys, isn’t it!”

Another boy spoke.

“I know this~ It’s one of those games where you romance hot guys. I saw a commercial for one of these on my smart phone game!”

A girl cut into the conversation.

“G-, give it back-…!”

I cut into the crowd, and frantically tried to get the game back.

“Ehhhhh, Ichiha, you play these sorts of games? Seriously?”

“Because she’s unpopular? Does she get all happy when 2-d hot guys tell her “I love you” and stuff?”

“Ahahahahah, as ifff. Bit gross though.”

Teasing me one by one, they tried to exit the convenience store with my game console.

“Stop! Give it back! Give it back!”

However, none of them would stop. They crossed the road, laughing.

“Stop it, stop! Give back Oneechan’s game-!”

The other side of the road was a river.

“-…!”

I had a bad feeling about this.
While laughing all the while, my classmates ran towards the running river.

“Wai-…!”

A boy held the game up, and tossed it to the girl next to him.
The girl who had caught it sneered, and then held out the game console towards me…
Or so I thought, when she pulled back her hand, and threw it into the river.

“AH-!!”

The game danced through the air beyond the reach of my hand.

The water splashed.

“Ah-, ah-…”

Unable to even form words I gazed at the river, and my classmates sneered at me.

“Soorreee~ Ichiha-chan, it accidentally slipppped~”

“Use this as a chance to live healthily~ Hurry up and find a human boyfriend-! HA HA HA!”

However, I couldn’t hear their words.

“The game… The game that Oneechan gave me!”

Even though inside that game was everything that had supported me until now!
I jumped into the river to chase after the game console.
Because it had rained yesterday, the water level was high but… the danger, or just buying it again… I wasn’t in the right mind to think about those things.

※

“Hey, Frau… You’re seriously taking an afternoon nap at a time like this?”

Because of an unhappy voice from right besides me, I came back to earth.

“Oh my, I’m sorry. I dozed off, didn’t I…?”

Honestly, what an unpleasant day dream that was. To see such a worthless dream.

“Give me a break~”

Now then, shall I start moving before Asagi makes an even bigger fuss?
As of the moment, though the plan is not going perfectly, it is coming along well.
I headed off to my afternoon classes.

All without realising the trap that was waiting for me.

Chapter 16 - Black Joker (Part 2)

It happened in the middle of class.
When I was getting my attendance marked off as a member of the Clovers class, a row of soldiers appeared before me.

“Capture Frau Monier!”

An unfamiliar commanding soldier pointed at me and raised his voice.
With his voice as the trigger, the other rank and file soldiers all charged at me at once.

“Wha-? Frau, did you do something?”

“Who are these people? Kyaa!”

The schoolgirls in my class who didn’t know anything all screamed together at the sudden development.
Shocked by the group of soldiers, the classroom fell victim to pandemonium.

Could it be, my plans were revealed? It couldn’t be… That’s definitely not it.
I used memory wiping and mouth-sealing magic to make sure that, friend or enemy, nobody would be able to reveal a thing.
…In that case, why did the soldiers of this country appear here?
Even though my plan is still only halfway. I can’t afford to be caught in a place like this.

I have to save this world that I love so much.

The environment I was raised in was the same as the protagonist’s. A small, and impoverished village.
I took over the place of Frau Monier, the daughter of a normal family who was three at the time.

In the game world that my sister gave me… In that dream-like world, I woke up in a place like that.
And as the protagonist of the game.

“This might really be a dream though.”

In this dream that I wouldn’t wake up from no matter how much time passed, when I was injured it hurt, and I got hungry too.

And moreover…
My joy at being in that ideal world lasted for but an instant… This world was, much dirtier than the one my sister had come up with.
In the poor village that I lived in, everybody suffered because of their lifestyle. It was a scene that wasn’t shown in much detail in the game.

Here the crops had poor yield, everybody starved, and thieves appeared as a matter of course. There were even unbelievable epidemics, and even harm from monsters.
…Even so, this country wouldn't give us a thing.
The nobles and royals only thought about themselves, and never took notice of the commoners.

There was no way that the world my sister created should have been this dirty.
So I stood up and took the first step. Together with comrades who felt the same way.
I couldn't wait absentmindedly until the headmaster picked me up like the protagonist.

"So… What are these guys nonchantly doing, appearing wearing a mask of justice after all this time? You're barking up the wrong tree!"

I raised my right hand to the air.
Soldiers of this level are nothing.

"I won't let you lot dirty the precious world that Oneechan created!"

Just with a wave of my right hand, the soldiers were all sent flying into the wall.

"Quick to fall, aren't you?"

There's no way they could win against me, right?
I mean, I'm the protagonist in this story world, you know?
I'm definitely here to clean up this world, you know?

"What are you gunna do, Frau? You can't go to school anymore, you know?"

Asagi who was in class right next to me was going to help me fight.

"…I can't be helped, can it, Asagi? There are still people that I wanted to gather to us though."

"We're out of time, huh."

"Well, that's fine. It'll be fine as long as we contact them again later… and our preliminary preparations are done."

We ran past the confused students. I attacked the pursuing soldiers again with magic.

"Achille Jade, was it?"

"Yes, his intelligence will be useful… There was an interference, but her mind is done for now, so I wonder if she can do a thing now."

Camille Rhodolite.

Although she was somebody from the same world as me, she was a foolish woman

who lived in the exact opposite way that I did…
Even when I was grieving over the deaths of my fellow villagers, and after that even while I was running around to try and better the country even a little, she was living leisurely without a worry and celebrating her life as a noble, and enjoyed her romance game. Without paying any attention to the lifestyle of the starving people of this nation.
The first time I saw her I was just so angry that my vision turned red.

“Scary, scary.”

Asagi shrugged his shoulders while running.

“Let’s transfer. There’s a transfer magic circle to Topageria prepared in my room.”

“Yeah, alright… Oop.”

Asagi dodged an attack from a soldier lying in wait.
I’ve known him since I was little. He’s also dissatisfied with this country.
At the end of the day, he’s the ringleader of the Revolution Route, after all. It was easy pulling him over to my side.
We gathered like-minded people to our side, and then put ourselves to action.

First I used the volume of my magic power as a bargaining tool in order to have myself adopted into the noble family of the neighbouring country.
With a powerful merchant who travels the world, as well as possessing a baron’s title, the Cintron family.
In Diamonds, and Clovers, and Spades too… the J’s are all very capable. I definitely want to complete the set with the J of Hearts too.
If they’re talented, and pledge their allegiance, then they’ll definitely be useful.

“For now, let’s take shelter in the Cintron house.”

“Yeah.”

After completely crushing the soldiers, we left the school building.
I wonder, did I go just a little bit too far? But, they’re the ones in the wrong.

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Table of Contents

First year - Second semester 3
- Chapter 1 - Q of Hearts 4
- Chapter 2 - J of Hearts 8
- Chapter 3 - Q of Hearts (Part 2) 13
- Chapter 4 - J of Hearts (Part 2) 17
- Chapter 5 - Q of Hearts (Part 3) 23
- Chapter 6 - J of Hearts (Part 3) 27
- Chapter 7 - Q of Hearts (Part 4) 30
- Chapter 8 - J of Hearts (Part 4) 33
- Chapter 9 - Q of Hearts (Part 5) 36
- Chapter 10 - K of Diamonds (Part 1) 41
- Chapter 11 - Q of Hearts (Part 6) 44
- Chapter 12 - K of Hearts (Part 1) 47
- Chapter 13 - Q of Hearts (Part 7) 51
- Chapter 14 - Q of Diamonds (Part 1) 55
- Chapter 15 - Black Joker (Part 1) 59
- Chapter 16 - Black Joker (Part 2) 63

Credits 66